



Nag News

Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen

June 2025

Issue #6

In Partnership With



BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN MISSION STATEMENT

- To perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's backcountry and wilderness areas.
- To work to ensure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use.
- To assist the various government, state and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource.
- To educate, encourage and solicit active participation in the wise and sustaining use of the back country resource by horsemen and the general public commensurate with our heritage.
- To foster and encourage the formation of new back country horsemen's organizations.
- To cooperate with other BCHA organizations.

THURSDAY, JUNE 19th, 2025 MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING

LARRY CREEK PARKING AREA

The next General Meeting will be at the Larry Creek Parking Area. On Hwy 93 N. drive 3.7 miles north from the Stevensville intersection and turn west onto Bass Creek Road, continue for 2 miles and veer right at the sign for the Larry Creek Trailhead on FS Road #1316.

A potluck dinner will be served at **6:30pm** followed by our monthly meeting from **7:00 - 8:30 pm**. Guests and new members always welcome.

Our guest this month is Amber Hanes-Miller. She will be talking about Life Flight and how it works. For more information contact Brad Pollman: 406-546-6491. Check out our website at: www.bchmt.org/bitterroot or Facebook: **Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen**.

THIS ISSUE

P. 2. Presidents message, Coyote Coulee project announcement
P. 3. Crazy Creek project recap.
P. 4. Larry Creek Project recap.
Pp.5-6 Draft General Meeting Minutes
Pp.6-7. Draft Board Meeting Minutes.
P. 8. Horse Sense (sponsor)
P.9. Back Country Kitchen (sponsor)
P.10. Officers and Board
P.11. Advertisers
P.12. Items for sale, horse pasture needed

DEADLINE FOR NAG NEWS

Thursday, July 10th
SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES &
ADS TO:
djmaiyo@gmail.com

2025 Trail Projects

- Coyote Coulee - Saturday, June 21
- East Fork Guard Station Barb Wire Removal -Friday-Sunday, July 11-13
- Boulder Creek July -18-20,
- May Creek TBD.
- Gold Creek Rendezvous at Beck Ranch - June 27-29.

A Message from the President

Hello, Fellow Members –

Hope to see you at our July general meeting at Larry Creek this week. I encourage you to come early and take a ride or hike before the meeting.

I'd like to talk to you about a donation from BCH to the National Museum of Forest Service History in Missoula. They are well on their way with construction.

There was a presentation at our state board meeting last September, and Smoke Elser brought it up again at last month's state meeting. A committee was formed, with Mark Himmel heading that up. This was discussed at our chapter's board meeting this month; the consensus was to move ahead and seek donation pledges from our membership towards a contribution from our chapter.

I spoke with Mark and starting in July he will be sending out weekly reports as to how the pledges are coming in. Several chapters' pledges have been received, so Montana is already halfway to its \$10,000 goal. The plan is for Montana to challenge other BCHA states to donate and get to a point where we will have a display showing how BCH partners with the Forest Service and the

It is expected we'd be reaching up to 60,000 museum visitors a year with BCH's story and history! I will pledge \$500. All donations – of any size – will help us reach our goal and will be donated on behalf of the Bitter Root chapter. Contact me to pledge or if you have any questions.

Hope you have the opportunity to slow down and enjoy your Montana surroundings ... and, as always, stay safe.
Sincerely yours,
Brad Pollman
406-546-6491

Upcoming Project Opportunity:

COYOTE COULEE PROJECT

Saturday, June 21, 2025

The second project of the season is at Coyote Coulee this Saturday, June 21. Please arrive to be ready to go with saddle stock by 8:15. The safety talk for everyone will start promptly at 8:45am. The project lead this year is Julie Schram.

Directions: Drive south from Hamilton on Hwy 93. Turn right (west) onto Lost Horse Road. Drive 2.4 miles to a posted junction with FR 496. Take the right fork onto the gravel road and drive a couple hundred yards to the trailhead parking on the right. There is an outhouse.

The 1st loop has the most waterbars (52!), which will be handled by hikers and riders. Another group of riders may go out to the connector (7 WBs) then on to the 2nd loop (25 WBs) if time permits. We'll do as many as possible!

Lunch will be served starting around 12-1pm. Lunch will be available for those coming back later until about 2. Remember to bring water, a snack for the trail, sun protection, rain gear, and a chair to relax in after your hard work.

It is asked that no dogs are brought on this project.

There are a couple trees down across the trail and some that need to be taken back more to make them easier to pass by for safety reasons.

What to bring? Your favorite tool (shovel, rake, hoe, Pulaski, loppers, nippers, handsaw, etc.) that work.

Crazy Creek/Twoood Cabin Project recap

On Saturday, May 31st 20+ people showed up. Diane and Dennis provided a yummy breakfast. Thank you!

There were 14 people working on the Horse Camp facility, and 7 people rode into the cabin with 7 riding horses and 3 pack animals.

We removed 3 trees on the trail and one leaning tree.

Camp Crew: Went to each campsite and evaluated what needs to be improved. Used a weed eater on each side of the road through the entire facility. Brushed out the edges, around each tie area, and each campsite. Several piles of debris need to be removed. The biggest priority is Fire Mitigation at the Horse Facility. Mark Wright chain-sawed some trees that were in the way of the camp sites.

Twoood Cabin: Got on the trail @ 9:45 am and returned to trailers about 5:15 pm. Packed out expired food and trash; tested the pump with a bleach/ water mix, and it worked great for us; sprayed the floor, walls, beds, table, and all surface areas in the cabin and outhouse with the bleach/water mix; swept the floor, cleared all cobwebs out; and cut and stacked firewood.



Larry Creek Project Recap:

Thank you to the 22 members, which included 2 riders and 4 pack stock, who turned out on National Trails Day, June 7, to work on the Larry Creek project.

As a reminder, the Grant Committee applied for and received a \$750 grant from BCHA towards this project. These funds were used to build a new mounting block, provide a gravel base around it, and purchase materials for 10 new water bars.

With the help of the Stevi USFS District, it was determined which waterbars needed physical maintenance or where new installs were required. Water bars were prepped and delivered prior to the day of the work project. Eight new water bars were installed, with at least one rock water bar created, while others were lengthened to accommodate the ever-widening trails. Here's a general overview of what was accomplished: cleaned up trailhead and parking area, cut out and cleaned up 4 trees, installed 4 new water bars, cut out and brushed back trail with bridges, cleaned waterbars and bridges of duff and debris, refinished the Bitter Root BCH recognition sign, built a new mounting block, performed level 1 maintenance on 11.25 miles of trail. Brad and Nancy fed the crew before sending all on their way home.

The following week Brad emptied the manure bin. He still has a bit more he'd like to complete before calling it quits on this project this season: install additional new water bars and cut up the rest of the tree at the trailhead.

And last but definitely not least -- kudos to Barb and Pam who set a table up near the kiosk to share the BCH mission. This resulted in new memberships, some nice donations, and plenty of laughs all around.

Thanks again to all! May all our future projects go as well as this one!



**BITTER ROOT BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN
DRAFT GENERAL MEETING MINUTES,
MAY 15th, 2025**

The May 2025 general meeting of the Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen (BRBCH) was called to order by President Brad Pollman at 7:04 p.m. The meeting was held at the Corvallis Primary School cafeteria. Approximately 33 members were present. There was a board quorum. All members led the Pledge to start the meeting. There were no guests

PROGRAM

Krissy Ferriter, Volunteer Program Director, Selway Bitterroot Frank Church Foundation: Kathy introduced Krissy who provided an overview of what their organization does, partnering with the Forest Service and Back Country Horsemen. There are multiple lookouts in the SBFCF area of maintenance. SBFCF was established in 2006 and since then their area of operation has increased. This year they have trail crews, an experienced pool of workers, wilderness ranger fellowships, volunteer stewardships, a youth program, and a river program. Volunteers serve as fire lookouts. St. Mary's Peak Lookout history: In the 1800's priests and parishioners hiked up the mountain from the Stevensville mission. In 1934, the 50'ft tower was built offsite and hauled up the mountain. Wind destroyed the original tower in 1951, and it was replaced with the classic L4 roof lookout without the 50' tower. It is now on the National Registry of Historic Places. At 9,300 feet in elevation, an average of 1,200 people hike there every year. FS requested SBFCF take over lookout staffing, protection and maintenance, visitor education, and delivery of supplies. SBFCF's main goal is increasing wilderness stewardship and public education. Their newer program is "Trailhead Ambassadors" who provide information to trail users. Their stats since 2009 through 2024: 45 volunteers, 842 days, 7300+ volunteer hours. The Sharrott Creek fire burned part of the trail and closed the lookout in 2024. BRBCH volunteers help SBFCF by packing in supplies, tools, and all kinds of gear to lookouts or trail projects; this totaled 140 hours of pack time in 2024.

BUSINESS

Minutes: The April minutes were printed in the May Nag News. There were no corrections. **Mary Odell moved and Christy Schram-Duggan seconded to accept the March and April general meeting minutes as printed. Motion carried.**

Treasure's Report: Elaine presented the May treasurer's report. Discussion followed. **Travise Grinnell moved and Bonnie Morgan seconded to accept the April and May treasurer's report. Motion carried.**

Correspondence/Announcements: Brad circulated a get-well card for Mack Long, who fell off his truck tailgate and injured himself. Kathy noted there are 6 slots to fill on the coffee/hot water signup sheet for the Sept-Dec meetings and passed around the signup sheet. She circulated the 301B volunteer forms for project volunteers to sign. Christy circulated background check forms for all people who plan to work at the fair. Brad reported that the payment we receive from the fair has increased to \$4500.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Grants: The \$750 grant we received from BCHA will pay for water bars to be installed at Larry Creek.

State Directors: Brad/Ed/Chuck: Ed said the next state meeting is Saturday, May 17, at Deer Lodge. Attendees will discuss the regional volunteer agreement to make sure all volunteers are covered for liability.

Training: Bonnie circulated a sign-up sheet for saw training. Recerts can be done at the Lost Horse Rental Cabin and Bear Creek Trailhead. Bonnie thanked Ed and Christy for their packing clinics. They are doing great work. Ed and Christy thanked Dennis and Diane for the use of their barn for the class. Ed asked clinic members to consider helping at the first project at Crazy Creek on May 30-31; it will be a good opportunity to practice what they have learned.

Membership: Barb reported that we have 66 memberships and 104 members.

Outreach: Karen said the portable toilet was delivered to the Calf Creek WMA trailhead before the opening at noon today. She attached a poster inside the toilet that shows the groups providing the service, including Bitterroot Back Country Cyclists, Rapp Family Foundation, Ravalli County Fish and Wildlife Association, and our chapter. Thanks go to Barb Walker for facilitating the toilet delivery and to Barb and Elaine Driskell for handling the payments. There is a different system for advertising our FS projects in the media now due to new FS rules on what can be sent to the media. The FS can only issue press releases dealing with safety or health impacts. We will use our FB page to let the public know when and where we will be working on trails. That information can then be shared by the FS to their Discover Bitterroot FB page.

Fair: Christy said fair dates are 8/27-30. There aren't major changes, and the fair schedule information is on our website. People are already signing up to work. Christy recommended that members sign up now to get the shifts they want. She has contacted her 2024 managers. Her son John will be here as our tech person.

Projects: Ed provided 301B forms and thanked project committee members for their hard work in getting through challenges this year. Nancy will add names of volunteers to the website list of certifications as they sign the 301B form. Projects prior to the June general meeting include Crazy Creek/Twoood Cabin on May 30-31; Christy Schram-Duggan and Ed are project leaders. Volunteers meet on Friday for breakfast and safety meeting, with main work on Saturday. Larry Creek is June 7, National Trails Day; Brad and Mary Odell are project leaders. Barb will set up PR tables, members will install new water bars, and John Dorman (FS) will provide trail construction information. Coyote Coulee is 6/21; Julie Schram and Travise are project leaders. Volunteers will do basic maintenance. East Fork barb wire removal is 7/11-13; Dan Maiyo and Chris Carrera are project leaders. Our past years' work on this wire removal has been greatly appreciated by the FS. Cabins, one electrical hookup, and corrals are available for members. Boulder Creek Project is July 18-20; Chris Carrera and Dan M are project leaders. Volunteers will clean up the trail head, parking area, and the trail.

Continued next page

(General Meeting minutes continued)

Program: Pam Ristad noted that she is working on scheduling speakers from Life Flight, Be Bear Aware, and the MCC trail program.

Public Lands: No report.

Sunshine: If a member needs a get well, congratulations, or condolence card, let Jenna Wright know.

OLD BUSINESS

Historian: Tim Meyer needs our project photos sent to him. The website is <https://bchmt.org/wp/bitterroot/>. This link takes you to the BRBCH website. Scroll down and click "Direct Link to: Historian's Chapter Photos". From here you can select Historian files, Submit Pictures, or go back to the complete BRBCH Repository where you can view files. The Google drive lets you look back at our history. Tim has a thumb drive that members can use to store photos. Mark Wright added that members who aren't able to do physical work on projects can help the chapter by taking photos of trail workers. Those photos are needed!

NEW BUSINESS

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

FYI from Jenna Wright: E-bikes are out at Coyote Coulee so be cautious. Use the E-Bike Incident Report Form (available at <https://www.bcha.org/new-forms-and-documents-page/>) to note date and time of e-bike use because e-bikes are illegal on FS land. Keep a few copies of the form in your saddlebag.

Next Meeting: June 19 at the Larry Creek horse trailer parking lot; potluck at 6:30, meeting at 7:00 pm. Bring your own beverages and chairs.

Coffee for September: Karen Philips

Hot Water for September: Diane Duffie

Motion to adjourn: Mary Odell moved and Ed Duggan seconded to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:36 pm.

Karen Philips, BRBCH Co-Secretary

BITTER ROOT BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN DRAFT BOARD MEETING MINUTES, JUNE 5th 2025

The June 2025 Board meeting of the Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen (BRBCH) was called to order by Brad Pollman at 7:02 pm at the Daly-Leach Community Room. Present were President Brad Pollman, Vice-President Dennis Hardman, Treasurer Elaine Driskell, and Co-Secretaries Kathy Stroppel-Holl and Karen Philips; Directors Chris Carrera, Diane Duffie, Lionel Lavallee, Mary Odell, Joan Scheffer, Barb Walker, and Mark Wright. Absent were Directors Julie Schram, Christy Schram-Duggan, State Director Ed Duggan (all at son John's graduation), and Alt. State Director Chuck Miller. There was a Board quorum. Committee chairs and members present: Bonnie Morgan, Dan Maiyo, and Dan Brandborg. All led the Pledge.

BUSINESS

Minutes: The May 2025 Board minutes were published in the Nag News. **Lionel Lavallee moved and Mary Odell seconded to accept the May minutes as published. Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report: Elaine Driskell provided account balances for CDs, checking, and savings. **Joan Scheffer moved and Barb Walker seconded to accept the June treasurer's report. Motion carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

John Renner, HS Graduate! Christy's son and long-time member, John Renner, graduates from St. Helen High School, Oregon, on June 6, 2025. He will be working with the chapter this summer, especially at the county fair. Congratulations, John!

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership: One new membership was presented, a hiking friend of Kathy who is interested in working a trail project. **Kathy Stroppel-Holl moved and Barb Walker seconded that we approve one new member. Motion carried.** There are 105 members and 67 memberships. Barb will have a promotional table for the chapter at the Larry Creek project on June 7, National Trails Day. She designed new BRBCH business cards for our members to share with the public.

State Directors: Brad discussed the BCHMT meeting held on May 17. Chris Nygren, Gallatin Valley BCH, is taking over Chuck Miller's position on the Issues Committee. FS Carol Hennessy, with FS Region 1, said BCH "is absolutely covered for liability on projects," as stated in the Volunteer Service Agreement.

Sponsorship opportunities for BCHA: The National Museum of Forest Service History, a 501c(3) nonprofit organization (independent of the USFS), is fundraising for the design and production of an exhibit on the historical role of BCHA's work with the FS. The National Conservation Legacy Center will house FS artifacts and exhibits, and will be located past the Missoula Airport just beyond the Smokejumpers base. BCHMT is going through a pledging process asking for donations from members. The Board discussed asking our members to pledge to this cause on behalf of our chapter. The Board heartily endorsed supporting this exhibit and presenting the pledge process to our members.

The BCHMT Rendezvous is at Gold Creek, MT, June 27-29, near the Beck Ranch. Lots of horse trailer parking and camp sites are available. Monture Creek is proposed for the 2026 Rendezvous/Trail Project. Mark Smith will serve as our liaison for this event.

(Continued next page)

(Board minutes continued)

Training: Bonnie said we are caught up with training except for saw training. Saw training and recertification could be done at the Bear Creek trailhead where felled trees need to be bucked and slash piled or scheduled when the Lost Horse Road is opened for travel to the end. When it opens up, the Lost Horse Cabin area will be a great opportunity for training. New members that need Horse Safety Training can contact Bonnie.

Projects: Ed and Christy provided a report via email as follows. 1) First project at Crazy Creek/Twoood Cabin kicked off with an amazing turnout 2) Next project is June 7th on National Trails Day at Larry Creek - Brad / Mary are the project leaders. 3) Second project in June is Coyote Coulee on June 21st - Travise / Julie are the project leaders. 4) Next Project Leader meeting is the first week of September to review project reports.

Crazy Creek/Twoood Cabin Project Report: Everything went really well, with 20+ people showing up. Diane and Dennis provided a yummy breakfast. Thank you! There were 14 people working on the Horse Camp facility, and 7 people rode into the cabin with 7 riding horses and 3 pack animals. We removed 3 trees on the trail and one leaning tree. Camp Crew: Went to each campsite and evaluated what needs to be improved. Used a weed eater on each side of the road through the entire facility. Brushed out the edges, around each tie area, and each campsite. Several piles of debris need to be removed. The biggest priority is Fire Mitigation at the Horse Facility. Mark Wright chain-sawed some trees that were in the way of the camp sites. Folks expressed that they were very interested in writing a grant to help update the Crazy Creek Horse Facility. Twoood Cabin: Got on the trail @ 9:45 am and returned to trailers about 5:15 pm. Packed out expired food and trash; tested the pump with a bleach/ water mix, and it worked great for us; sprayed the floor, walls, beds, table, and all surface areas in the cabin and outhouse with the bleach/water mix; swept the floor, cleared all cobwebs out; and cut and stacked firewood. There may be a reroute on the trail to Twoood Cabin because of the deep waterhole caused by a beaver dam.

Dan M said that Brand Browning, Sula District manager, contacted him regarding the date for the East Fork project. There may be a conflict on the date, and he will follow up. Post meeting update: Brand confirmed with Dan that the East Fork project is July 11-13.

Brad used Larry Creek grant money to buy and drill water bars. John Dorman, Stevensville District Recreation Specialist, is coordinating with us. Brad built a new mounting block that will be installed and our "maintenance" sign will be refurbished by Dennis. Be there for the safety meeting by 8:45. Brad met with Mark Smith at the SO who gave us several Silky saws and lots of other equipment.

Fair: Christy sent an email that sign-ups are going well.

Public Lands/Issues: Brad reported on a couple of issues: a Public Lands Caucus supported by Zinke is a good thing. It has been reported that Daines is working with Mike Lee to

negotiate about selling public lands. Randy Rasmussen is assisting Mack Long in writing a letter to Daines saying BCHMT doesn't support this.

OLD BUSINESS

Summer Meeting Schedule: The August 21 meeting is scheduled for the Rock Creek Horse Camp at Como. Diane Duffie will call Erica Strayer to confirm the site for that meeting. Dan M will bring the chuck wagon to the June 19 meeting at Larry Creek. The July Board meeting will be canceled due to the July 4 holiday.

Long-Term Planning: We need to form a committee to focus on the future of equine use on the BNF. The FS is getting long-term input from other user groups, and we need to be in the mix. Brad will ask for committee volunteers at the June 19 meeting.

Conservation Days May 19-21: Julie sent an email summary as follows: At Lake Como Tuesday and Wednesday (May 20-21), there were 275 children over 2 days. Mary Odell was there on Tuesday, which was very helpful. Tuesday was very cold, rainy, and windy! All the children were amazing, some of the best in all the years Julie has done this event. Wednesday was not bad, tad warmer, still windy. Mary left her interactive materials, which were shared with the kids; they all loved it! Almost all the stuff that the Board provided was passed out. Thanks to Barb, Brad, Nancy, and Mary! Light on the Land materials are available online.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

Business Cards: An example of the new business card was presented. Thank you, Barb, for getting this done.

Lionel Lavallee moved and Mary Odell seconded to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 8:14 pm.

Karen Philips, Co-Secretary BRBCH



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Prepare for a Barn Fire

By Dan Maiyo

STEPS INVOLVED IN PREPARING YOUR FACILITY AND HORSES FOR YOUR WORST NIGHTMARE.

Note: I invite your suggestions and experiences for future discussion on this important topic.

1. Know who to call

Everyone should know to call 911 and be able to do it on the fly, including neighbors, boarders, and anybody else in the immediate vicinity of your property. If you have a land line, post pertinent information permanently on the phone. In absence of a phone, use a bulletin board. Your 911 call should be visible to the operator. However, everyone should have the address of the farm/ranch/facility as notes on their phone. Include directions, location of the barn on the property if not visible from the road, and which entrance is accessible if more than one. Make sure these signs are easily visible at night. Gated entrances should be designed and maintained for easy access by firefighters and other first responders. Maintain the route in and out of parking and maneuvering areas to the site and are readily accessible by emergency vehicles. Coordinate with first responders as to the availability of a fire hydrant, pond, or water retention tank.

2. Escape for Horses and other livestock

Plan an escape route for horses and livestock. Be able to open gates to free horses to run into a secure fenced area far enough away from the fire. Loose horses, fire trucks and firefighters don't mix. Pasture gates should be maintained to work easily with frightened horses in hand. Be sure everyone is aware which horses are buddies and might be led out together, or follow each other out. Prepare your horses for such a crisis. Are halters and lead ropes readily accessible? Can you lead your horses with a cover over their eyes to get them out of the barn?

3. Consult ahead of time with the fire department

Contact your local fire department and ask for a safety check list. Show them water sources, where the hay and bedding are stored, location of flammable or toxic materials etc. Discuss your plan and ask for advice. Prepare your horses with the look and smell of fire suits, helmets, flashing emergency lights and fire vehicles.

4. Fire Drill

Pick a day when your boarder(s), horse sitter, and any appropriate neighbors are available. Time yourself. Take turns going through the steps, practice the motions, debrief. What went right? What corrections should be made? Make a video and review the drill.

5. Take photos of the facility.

For insurance and personal purposes, take photos of the facility inside and out for your records. If the unthinkable happens, you will have a record of saddles, tack, other valuables and structural improvements that might be lost or damaged in a fire.

6. A stitch in time saves nine.

Using the fire department's recommendations or your own good common sense. Place fire extinguishers strategically throughout the facility. Place hanging cards on the extinguishers, check and record them monthly for their charge status. Learn how to use them. Prohibit smoking around the barn. Consider stacking hay away from the barn. Insufficiently dried hay can smolder and combust if the moisture content is excessive. Remove weeds and dry brush from around the structure. Gas powered machinery and other combustible materials should not be stored in the barn. Have an electrician do a safety check of the wiring. Ask the electrician how to turn the power off to the barn and still keep power to the well and water to run.

7. Prepare for reality.

In there is a fire, adrenaline will take over. Even the best laid plans can go astray. You will lose track of time. Preparation, training and familiarity will be your best defense.



BACKCOUNTRY KITCHEN SPONSORED BY:



The Shirt Spot

1704 N 1st St Unit C
Hamilton MT 59840

The Shirt Spot is new to Montana since April 2023, but has over 20 years' experience in the industry! Services offered include printing, embroidery, sign banners, stickers and business cards. Quality clothing including tee's, tank tops, and ladies crop tops are offered at a reasonable price. Also offered is a huge variety of headwear ready for embroidery!

Louie's World Famous Croatian Organic Spaghetti

Freshness is essential! Use only fresh organic vegetables and sauces. Whole tomatoes if you have them.

Ingredients:

1. 1/4 -1/2 cup olive oil (enough to sauté in a large saucepan)
2. 2 cans tomato sauce
3. 1 can sliced tomatoes
4. 1 can tomato paste
5. 1/4 cup or more basil
6. 1/4 cup or more oregano
7. 1 bay leaf
8. 1 glass red wine for sauce, plus one for you
9. 1/2 tsp salt and a few shakes of coarse ground pepper
10. 3 or 4 diced garlic cloves (fresh)
11. 1/2 white or yellow onion, coarsely chopped.
12. 1/2 green or yellow pepper, coarsely chopped.

13. 1 Large handful or more of Cremini mushrooms, sliced.
14. 2 **Lifeline Farm Store** Hot Italian sausages, sliced.
15. Organic spaghetti noodles.

Instructions:

Preheat olive oil in large sauce pan, **do not overheat!** Sauté veggies and sausage, add garlic last, mix basil, oregano, bay leaf, salt and pepper. Sauté until onions are glassy. Add tomato sauces and wine. Bring to light boil and turn heat to simmer and cover with lid. Allow to simmer an hour or so, stirring frequently. Boil spaghetti noodles according to cooking instructions and number to be served. Serve liberally with grated parmesan cheese and a bottle of good red wine.

Serves one large Croatian family

Exclusively at the Shirt Spot! Embroidered Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen logo on in-stock vests and jackets or a vest/jacket of your own choice. Personnel Wyoming Traders vest shown. Custom thread color available. Inquire for pricing. Caps offered in a variety of styles and colors! \$25/cap or \$20/each/10 caps. **Tell the Shirt Spot that you saw this notice in this newsletter! Show your support for our BCH Chapter!**



2025 Committees	2025 Chairs & Members
Audit	(Changes Annually) 2025: Barb Walker, Joe Kirkland, Elaine Driskell
Audio-Visual Equipment	Dennis Hardman, Travise Grinnell
Budget	(Changes Annually) 2025: Gene Merrell, Earl Phillips
Election & Nominations	(Changes Annually)
Equipment & Inventory	Ed Duggan, Chuck Miller
Fair	Christy Schram-Duggan
Grants	Brandi Ashford
Historian	Tim Meyer
Issues	Carol Johns, Kathy Stroppel-Holl
Long-Term Planning	(Volunteer Needed)
Membership	Barb Walker
Advertising	Virginia DeLeo
Newsletter	Dan Maiyo
Outreach	Travise Grinnell
Parliamentarian	Joan Scheffer
Pleasure Rides	Pam Ristad, Candice Erickson
Programs	Pam Ristad
Projects	Ed Duggan
Social	(Volunteer Needed)
Sunshine	Jenna Wright
Training	Bonnie Morgan
Website	Nancy Pollman

Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen Officers and Board

Chapter officers				
Position	Name	Term	Contact	
President	Brad Pollman	2025	406-546-6491	
Vice President	Dennis Hardman	2025	307-699-1679	
Secretary	Kathy Stroppol-Holl/Karen Phillips	2025	Kathy 720-244-2943, Karen 406-369-0725	
Treasurer	Elaine Driskell	2025	916-698-8544	
Board Members	Term	State Directors	Term	BCHMT State Chairman
Diane Duffie	2024-25	Ed Duggan	2025-26	Mack Long
Mark Wright	2024-25	Brad Pollman	2024-25	
Lionel Lavallee	2024-25	Alt. State Director		BCHMT Vice State Chairman
Joan Scheffer	2024-25	Chuck Miller	2025	Sandy Himmel
Chris Carrera	2025-26	BCHMT National Directors		Alt. National Director
Mary Odell	2025-26	Brad Pollman		John Chepulis
Julie Schram	2025-26	Connie Long		
Christy Schram –Duggan	2025-26			
Barb Walker	2025-26			
		BRBCH Past President		
		Jan Bullock		


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Needed:

Pasture for 2 horses. Hopefully in the Grantsdale, Skalkaho, or Sleeping Child area. Or, a place for my RV and my horses. I have some fencing materials available. Please call 406-381-6445. Thanks.

FOR SALE

I will be in the 50 mile yard sale on June 27 and 28.

- Brand new Decker pack saddle \$700.00, well made
- Panniers \$300.00,
- 2 pack boxes for \$200.00.
- A top pack for over the pack saddle, \$100.
- Almost new top pack for over the riding saddle \$100.00.
- I have lots of tack and a 25 # Specialized Saddle, 16 inch seat with breast collar for \$2,000.00.
- BCH members can come and buy earlier if you are interested.

Contact Susan Slemph 406-381-5910.



Fairgrounds Arenas Open and Improved!

The Ravalli Fairgrounds arenas are officially be open starting Wednesday April 9th at 8am. Prices are \$15/per person for a single day ride or \$100 for the season, which is around October depending on weather.

J&J Excavating recently spent a week working on both arenas; laser leveled, graded and had material added for the best ground this facility has seen in years!

For information on user fees, release forms and schedule contact:

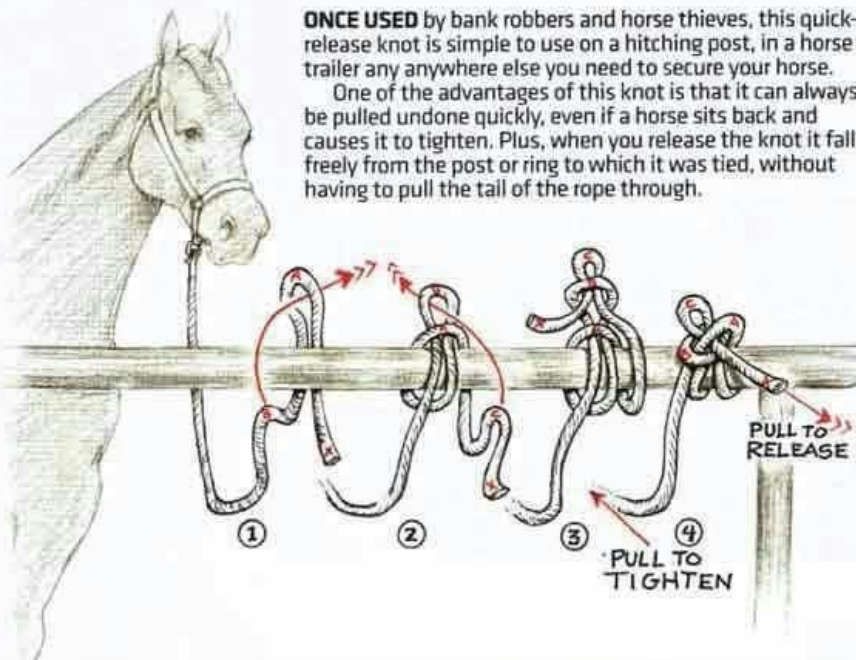
Melissa Saville
Fair Manager
Ravalli County Fairgrounds
406-363-3411
Hamilton, MT

<https://ravalli.us/200/Fairgrounds>

Farriers' or Bank Robber's Knot

ONCE USED by bank robbers and horse thieves, this quick-release knot is simple to use on a hitching post, in a horse trailer anywhere else you need to secure your horse.

One of the advantages of this knot is that it can always be pulled undone quickly, even if a horse sits back and causes it to tighten. Plus, when you release the knot it falls freely from the post or ring to which it was tied, without having to pull the tail of the rope through.





Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen



NEXT BRBCH MEETING

Thursday, June 19th, 2025

Larry Creek Horse Parking Area

Dinner at 6:30pm Meeting at 7:00pm

Visit our Website:

bchmt.org/bitterroot

Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen
P.O. Box 1083
Hamilton, MT 59840